propose a road work. The Famine Commissioner also suggested the taking up of the Mettur left bank canal at a cest of Rs. 2 lakhs if there were no rains in the next fortnight. In pursuance of the Famine Commissioner's suggestions irrigation works were taken up and pushed through wherever there was urgent need for them. This answer may apply to the next question 591 also, Sir."

Tour of the Famine Commissioner in Salem district.

* 591 *Q.*—SRI K. V. RAMASWAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the parts visited by the Famine Commissioner in Salem district in 1952–53; and

(*b*) the recommendations made by him after his tour in that district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—

"(*a*) The Famine Commissioner visited Harur, Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Omalur and Tiruchengode taluks in May 1952, and in November 1952, he visited certain parts of the district.

"(*b*) The attention of the Hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 590 by Sri M. P. Subramanyam, M.L.A."

SRI M. PALANIANDI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Union Minister, Mr. Krishnamachari, toured only those places where the local union Congressmen invited him and that too at midnight and that he did not visit the famine areas?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"This question concerns the Famine Commissioner. What has that to do with Mr. Krishnamachari?"

SRI K. V. RAMASWAMY:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Famine Commissioner visited the other taluks of the district?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—

"I am afraid some other hon. Member may ask me whether the Famine Commissioner visited some hamlets in the district, Sir."

SRI C. V. K. RAO:—"Will the Hon. Minister enlighten us whether famine follows or precedes the Famine Commissioner?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"What has that to do with the present question?"

SRI S. NARAYANAPPA:—"Are the Government aware of the fact that the reports sent by the Sub-Collector of Penukonda and the Collector differed from one another and if so what did the Famine Commissioner say in his report?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may put a separate question."

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SRI S. NARAYANAPPA :—" At least will the Hon. Minister tour my constituency, Sir? The Famine Commissioner, whenever he visits a district, does not go to the interior to verify facts."

MR. SPEAKER :—" This has nothing to do with the present question. A separate question may be put."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" In view of the fact that famine is prevalent for the past four or five years in Salem, will the Government consider the desirability of declaring Salem as a famine area at least now? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " Salem has ceased to be a famine area. I do not know why the hon. Member wants to drag Salem into the famine area."

SRI N. SIVARAJ:—" ஸார், திருச்செங்கோடு தாலூகாவில் எடுக்கப் பட்ட கஞ்சித் தொட்டிகளைத் திறப்பதற்கு சர்க்காருக்கு உத்தேசம் இருக்கிறதா என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " Yes, if it is necessary it will be done."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" Out of his own experience, one of the M.L.As. has now complained that Famine Commissioner, whenever he visits a famine district, does not go to the interior of the district, where famine is prevalent in an acute form, to verify the facts of the case. I would like to know whether the Famine Commissioner did or did not do so in Salem district also? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " Whenever he visits a district, he visits all places which are supposed to be famine-stricken."

SRI P. PUNDARIKAKSHACHARYULU :—" Sri, the Famine Commissioner after his tour of the famine areas in the State has recommended certain steps to be taken to relieve the distress. May I know, Sir, how many of those recommendations have been implemented? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :— " To the largest extent possible, Sir."

Investigation into the death of Changarath Unnimaya Amma of Ponnani taluk.

* 592 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the Government are aware of the suicide committed by Changarath Unnimaya Amma of Mala amsam, Ponnani taluk, with her two children, and that police inquest has recorded starvation as the cause for suicide?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Reports received in this case show that the woman, wife of a Madras tea-shop keeper, became widowed and for some time lived with her